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FM AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1316  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0666

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STATE FOR EUR/NCE, EUR/RPM

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/2017

TAGS: PREL PHUM KDEM RS

SUBJECT: SLOVAKIA SEES EYE-TO-EYE WITH U.S. ON OSCE  
ELECTION MONITORING

REF: STATE 153309

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Lawrence R. Silverman for reason  
s 1.4 b and d.

¶1. (C) PolEcon Chief delivered reftel demarche to Katarina Zakova, Head of the MFA's OSCE Section, on November 9. Zakova confirmed that the GOS shares U.S. concerns about the Russian approach to the ODIHR observation mission. Zakova characterized the lack of response from the GOR to visa requests from the core advance team as particularly troubling, given the tight timeline. Zakova said that the Slovak OSCE delegation had not spoken with the Russians about the mission since the GOR issued the invitation on October 31, but that it would certainly do so in light of Russia's "unacceptable" demands.

VALLEE